7/3/69

Dear Hal,

We skipped so much when you phoned last night....

I believe I once asked you if you could try and persuade John to be a little less of a thief. He has what are left of the 5,000 copies of O in NO that he got on my word. I am responsible for them. He wants me to pay for their return and I cannot. I do not know if he has abandoned them or not. Storage is more costly than shipping. He also should account in some reasonable, credible way for those he cannot return. He claims to have sold none, which I simply do not believe.

He has been a disaster to me, yet I have no doubt he thinks he was a boon. He did nothing except talk big and waste time. Those things that could have had meaning, like lining up appearances, we both know you did. He cost me what I would not have been stuck with, My 2/68 trip out there, simply by doing exactly what I told him not to. He promised to pay this once he got his settlement. Instead, as I have heard he also did with others, he picked a fight and skipped out. He ducked me when I was in LA. So far as those fancy accomodations are concerned, you know how well I make out on a cot.

No only do I need those books, I do not want to be held responsible for them and have him snitch them. Were I dsiposed to le him stick me, I still do not and cannot have the money for shipment. He ordered them. I did not ask him to. And it is the custom and practise that returns are at the cost of the shipper.

On the other hand, if he continues to refuse, I just might get mad enough to find a alwyer and do something. I think he would regret it, much as he considers himself the best lay lawyer.

I've written Harv several times without answer. Also Jim Eason. Tell them I hope they're well.

Do you have the Revolucion copy of the Castro Speech (11/25/68)? I have not located anyone who can make a competent translation here, although it is still possible. Xeroxong would be costly and I do not want to mail it. But, if you know anyone who can make a good translation, I'd like to be able to go over it carefully.

When I wrote Gary I conveyed your message.

I look forward to the K tape. If there is a transcript, that would be very helpful. When I offer it I should know the antecedents and whether or not I can disclose them, the circumstances under which it was made, by whom for my own information and to be able to answer any questions I might be asked. I'll listen to it and will not offer until you tell me it is okay.

Do you suppose the government is finding this a little embarrassing?

Please remember me to the Whites and others.

Best regards,